THE TRUTH ABOUT VINELAND.

Sketch of the Settlement, Growth, and Charactor of Vinciand, by as Oscida Com nunist -Its Rapid Growth Causes Which Have Operated Against Its Greater Success.

Vineland is a peculiar town On visiting it I was surprised at its rapid growth. About nine years ago it consisted of only a dozen

houses, and now it claims a population of at least 10,000 persons. It is well laid out and neatly built, containing five churches, some good stores, and two or three small manufacturing establishments. It has two weekly newspapers. One of the best dry-goods stores in the town is owned and conducted solely by two young ladies. . There is not a grogshop in the place, and it is supposed to be free from riot and crime. But having said so much for Vineland, but little remains to be urged in its favor. Property is beginning to decline in value, though unimproved building lots, eighty feet front on the main streets and one hundred feet back, are still held at \$150 each. Judging from my own observations. I should say that Vineland has reached its height of prosperity, and that it will have to struggle to maintain its present position. The town was built as a speculation on a site that no one but a speculator would have ever dreamed of selecting. It stands in a sandy plain, so level that from the four corners in the centre of the town one can look away four miles in either direction. There is neither river, creek, nor spring to be seen. The inhabitants are dependent upon wells, which furnish good drinking water. The absence of water power will discourage large manufacturing enterprises; and in case of fire the town would be almost at the mercy of the flames, from lack of water to supply the fire-engines. Mr. Landis, a Philadelphia lawyer, realously aided by the New York Tribune and other periodicals, has induced some ten thousand people to flock to Vineland, in confident expectation of finding a hone, where money can be made with little effort in the business of raising fruit. Mr., Landis is supposed to have made a large fortune from his venture. while many of his colonists, that came expecting to enter a paradise of ease and plenty, have found difficulty in procuring the necessaries of life. There is some good land in and around the town, or at least it may be made productive, since many of the villagers have fine gardens; but much of the country around is so sandy and poor that successful agriculture would first involve great expense for manures. Peaches and grapes do not thrive here as in some portions of the State. Dwarf pines and scrub oaks once found a congenial home in this soil. During the first years the labor of clearing the land was great, and caused much ill-feeling among the settlers. Landis and his supporters maintained that the stumps were excellent fertilizers if left to rot. Strawberries, raspberries, &c., yield well, and there are good markets in Philadelphia and other accessible cities. Still the golden dreams of the settlers have never been realized. The business of fruit preserving was started four or five years since, but failed from lack of competent management, or from some other unexplained causes. The founders of the Vineland colony made two grave mistakes, which in the commencement favored their enterprise, though they are now beginning to react with blighting effect. The first consisted in making a specialty of horticulture. Experience, the world over, should have taught them to lay the foundation of their material prosperity in manufacturing industry. The success of horticulture depends upon time, capital, and experienced and industrious workmen, all or part of which were sadly lacking at Vineland, quite as much as upon favorable climate, good soil, and convenient markets. Besides, an agricultural popula-tion of ten thousand should be scattered over quite an area, not crowded into a single village. The second, and even greater blunder, consisted in putting forth advertisements calculated to draw to the colony many who through indolence or incompetency had failed to make good homes for themselves in ordipary society. Resolute pioneers were wanted who would not be afraid of toil, who would not become discouraged by unavoidable hardships. No doubt some good representatives of this class were attracted, as the measure of success attained de-monstrates as much; but it is also painfully obvious to the reflecting visitor, that a large portion of the people attracted were theoretical reformers and Spiritualists. An attendance at one of the meetings in Vineland, purporting to be of a religious character, convinced me that there is a preponderating element of Spiritualism in the town. In fact, a hadean atmosphere pervades the place. So far as my observations go, Spiritualists as a class are singularly unenterprising in business, and almost wholly unadapted to the labor of creating either a prosperous city or thriving agricultural population. If people are shiftless and dreamy when scattered through ordinary society, there is little reason to hope that they will become good workers in a society composed largely of own order. Some of the women wear bloomer costumes, and others, who still cling to long skirts, ignore the latest fashions. Women work at any calling they please, out of doors or in-doors, and deserve commendation for their independence in this respect. The town has, I understand, a number of literary and scientific people. I learned that many were anxious to sell out and leave the village. The town has not grown any for two years, and some assert that it has slightly fallen off in numbers. In view of these facts I was led to conclude, notwithstanding the laudations which have appeared in newspapers, that Vineland is not the success that it has been claimed to be. It growth has been forced and unnatural, and it consequently lacks healthy vitality. Some of its reflecting inhabitants admitted this fact. On the other hand, the leading men of the town seem quite as sanguine as ever that Vineland will prove a permanent success.

THE ORIGINAL OF MISS MOWCHER. Grace Greenwood, in the last number of Harper's Basar, tells the following "Little Story of Charles Dickens:"-

One morning in the summer of 1852, standing by the drawing-room windew of a friend's house in London, where I was visiting, I remarked in the street below a very curious little brougham, drawn by a shaggy Scotch pony, and driven by either a dwarf or a very old and staid-looking boy, in a somewhat flashy livery. This queer establishment, which reminded me of Tom Thumb's turnout, was evidently waiting for some one then in my friend's house, and I watched with considerable curiosity for the appearance of that some one. At last I heard the hall-door open, and saw descending the high stone steps the strangest, quaintest figure of a woman—a dwarf, not more than three feet high, but very stout, and without form or comeliness Her head was large, and she wore the large English bonnet of that time, elaborately ornaniented with ribbons and flowers. | 217;

Indeed, her whole attire was gay and odd to the degree that might be called "stunning. She waddled rapidly across the sidewalk, carrying, I remember, a large bag, and sprang into her brougham with marvellons lightness and quickness, all things considered. As she was giving some directions to her coachman I caught a view of her face. It was evidently that of a woman of middle age; but it was full and florid, with a merry, confident, and even roguish expression, which might be called both bold and cunning. It was certainly very vivacious, and ludicrously wideawake and knowing. Suddenly, it flashed upon me, as this small person drove away, that I had seen the "counterfeit presentment" of little Miss Mowcher, the bair-dresser, shampocer, and whisker-trimmer of Steerforth, in 'David Copperfield.' This I remarked to my friend, who just then entered the room, She smiled, and replied quietly, "Yes, Miss is the original of Miss Mowcher, and Mr. Dickens never drew a more perfect portrait." She then went on to tell me that the little woman, who, she said, was "a most excellent creature, was a professional chiropodist, and, I think, also a hair-dresser, and that she was doing a good business in Lon-don, owing much of her success to her eccentric, vivacious ways, and, perhaps, to an almost ludirous deformity, which apparently had about it nothing painful or diseased. She always looked in abounding health, and her manner and voice were hearty to jollity. She had attended on Mrs. Dickens professionally, and during some of her ministrations Mr. Dickens had encountered her, it seemed, and had made a mental sketch of her in his marvelous way, as John Leech used to take heads on his thumb nail ia an omnibus or on the street. The poor little lady was very much hurt when Miss Mowcher appeared among the dramatis persons of "David Copperfield," and everybody recognized the picture, and many spoke to her of it, congratulating her or condoling with her on her questionable immortality. She thought, as some others thought at the time, that the odd, "volatile" little hair-dresser was to play a mischievous, malevolent part in the novel-was to be a sort of bad fairy; and with her grievance on her heart-which, after all her shrewd, driving, absurd ways, her "tricks and her manners," was a good heart—she came to my friend, who was one of her

She told him something of her story-how she too had been obliged to cut her way through the "Forest of Difficulty." and to open a path for other feet, timid with youth or faltering from age. It was the very letter to touch Charles Dickens, and it did touch him. A day or two later the little woman came to my friend. with her droll face all aglow with happiness and pride, and holding in her morsel of a hand" a dainty-looking, blue-tinted note. On the left-hand corner of the envelope was the autograph, so familiar to us now-Charles Dickens, the C so like a G, the two names confluent, and the seven-storied flourish and all. The note itself was brief, but most courteous; the novelist thanked his correspondent for her frank remonstrance, expressed regret that she had been pained, but bade her dismiss all anxiety and depend upon him to bring her out all right in the end. After the usual kind words with which he closed even

the briefest notes, there was another full auto-

graph, flourish and all.

kindest patrons, and talked the matter over,

with tears of real distress. My friend advised her at once to write to Mr. Dickens, and

frankly state her feelings and apprehensions, and show cause wby judgment should not be

pronounced against her; and she actually did

write a protest, characteristically "volatile"

in style, and yet, in passages, almost patheti-cally carnest. She assured him that there

was room for a true womanly heart in her

dumpy, pursy, unshapely body, "three feet

by nothing;" that her eccentricities were, in

great part, her stock in trade; that her rat-

tling, slangy talk, and droll, saucy air, were

her best defenses against humiliating pity

and condescension, though, perhaps, they

exposed her to more humiliating suspicions.

THE WEEHAWKEN DUELLING GROUND. -A ride of five minutes from the Elysian Fields brought us to the fatal spot where, in 1801, Philip Hamilton, at the age of twenty, was mortally wounded in a duel by George J. Eacker, and where, on the 11th of July, three years later, his father, Alexander Hamilton, was killed by Burr. Formerly, a marble monument, erected by the St. Andrew's Society, marked the exact place of the fatal encounter, and even as late as last year when I visited the spot, a cedar tree against which Hamilton stood while the seconds were arranging the preliminaries was still standing. Now, however, the newly-completed road-bed of the West Side Railroad has destroyed the tree, besides removing every vestige of the narrow ledge on which the principals stood. After the monument had disappeared, two granite boulders occupied its place with the names "Hamilton" and "Burr" inscribed upon them respectively. After a somewhat protracted search, we found the one marked "Hamilton," but the one with "Burr" on it was nowhere to be seen. Inquiring of a gang of track-layers in regard to it, the foreman informed us that it had been used as a keystone in a culvert just above. "Could you not," we asked, "have used another stone and preserved this relic? "Why, yes," answered the foreman: "but the boss said Burr was a blasted mean fellow, anyhow, and he guessed it would be more useful as a covering stone than keeping alive his memory."—Cor. N. Y. Evening Mail.

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627
C. L. KIMBALL, Superlutendent.

THE PHILADELPHIA AND BALTIMORE CENTRAL RAILROAD CO.

TRAIL RAILROAD CO.

TRAINS FOR PHILADELPHIA leave
PORT DEPOSIT at 9 25 A. M. and 4 25 P. M., on arrival of trains from Baltimore.

OXFORD at 6 05 A. M., 10 55 A. M., and 5 30 P. M., CHADD'S FORD at 7 26 A. M., 12 06 M., 1 30 P. M., 45 P. M., and 6 49 P. M.

Passengers are allowed to take wearing apparationly as bagyage, and the company will not be responsible for an amount exceeding one hundred dollars nuless a special contract is made for the same.

General Superintendent.